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July 21, 2003

K Dane Snowden

Chief, Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau

Federal Communications Commission

445 12 Street SW

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Washington, DC 20554

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Dear Mr. Snowden:

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On behalf of Florida's 96,000 REALTORS, I would like to take this opportunity to urge the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to reconsider the agency's recent final telemarketing rule amendments that result in the provisions of National Do-Not-Call registry being extended to intrastate phone calls.

Under the newly amended rules, REALTORS and many other professionals will have to comply with the National Registry, regardless of existing state laws that govern telemarketing activities. The Florida legislature in 1987 recognized the need for regulation in this arena and enacted well reasoned laws that govern telemarketers, provide a do-not-call list to the state's citizens, and provide exceptions for certain telemarketers in limited circumstances

For instance, REAL FORS in Florida may call someone on the state donot-call list when the call is in response to a yard sign or some other form of advertisement placed by the owner of the property. By extending the Federal Registry to intrastate calls, the FCC's telemarketing amendments will now supercede the laws of Florida and every other state that has been proactive in regulating telemarketers. The FCC amendments also appear to exceed what Congress intended. As such, the rule should be restated so that its application is limited to interstate phone calls

Again, on behalf of the Florida Association of REALTORS, I urge you to repeal the FCC's amendments to the Telemarketing Sales Rule to the extent the National Registry applies to intrastate calls. States such as Florida, which was at the forefront of telemarketing regulation, deserve the freedom to craft responsible solutions to state issues.

Sincerely,

Tom Salomone

President, Florida Association of REALTORS



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